

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT NO.

25X1

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Military and
Economic Information

DATE DISTR. 22 March 1954

NO. OF PAGES 3

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

REFERENCES 613936

25X1

1. Each branch of the Bulgarian military service has, at the War Ministry, an Inspectorate which is responsible for and takes care of the majority of armaments. The Army General Staff has drawn up a special plan which provides that underground shelters, storerooms, gasoline reservoirs, and munitions and weapons depots must be built within the year 1954 and must be capable of protecting the above materiel in case of atomic bombardment.
2. This protection is to be afforded armament, equipment, and the more important military objectives, the destruction of which would cause immediate catastrophic results to the combat effectiveness of the Army, whether it be in Bulgarian or in Soviet territory.
3. In order to carry out this special plan of the General Staff, the various Inspectors at the Ministry of War (Air, Armored, and Heavy Artillery Inspectorates) have built and are now building underground shelters in various localities of military-strategic importance.
4. The Artillery Inspectorate, which handles armaments for the entire Bulgarian Army, has completed construction on very large underground depots located south of the Tundzha River, in the vicinity of the village of Buzovgrad (N 42-35, E 25-22), formerly Armaganovo. Here are stored the new weapons which arrive from the USSR and which are assembled at the artillery armory in the military factory of Kazanluk. The depots of Buzovgrad, where anti-aircraft weapons coming from the USSR are also stored, are under the immediate control of Soviet officers. Two kilometers east of Buzovgrad, a special reinforced concrete observation post has been built. It is guarded by sentries

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	X	ARMY EV.	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
-------	---	----------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

25X1

from the military factory of Kazanluk.

5. Chemical plants, powder factories and a pyrotechnics section have been constructed at "Ormana," which is bordered by the Tundzha River, the village of Rozovo (N 42-34, E 25-25, formerly Orozovo), and the military factory of Kazanluk. These installations are closely guarded by Interior Troops, by members of DOSO (Dobrovolna Organizatsiya za Sudeystvie na Otbranata; Voluntary Organization for Defense Assistance), and by the national Militia.
6. Chief of the Military Operations Section is Lieutenant General Ivan Kinov, Bulgarian, Communist, former refugee to the USSR where he graduated from the "Frunze" Academy of the Soviet General Staff. Kinov was a Soviet colonel and, during World War II, commanded a regiment on the Ukrainian front.
7. Additional underground depots covering an area of two kilometers, are under construction at location "Chananchiskite Bani," situated in the vicinity of the railroad station of Tulovo (N 42-35, E 25-33). These depots are subordinate to the Artillery Inspectorate and are to be used to store the weapons and ammunition which arrive from the Soviet Union and pass through the military factory of Kazanluk, which is the largest factory of its kind in Bulgaria.
8. Already located in Tulovo are the old military depots where the more important weapons of the artillery regiment of the city of Stara Zagora are stored. Furthermore, the railway station of Tulovo is a rail center through which pass the railway which from Stara Zagora, over the mountains, runs to southern Bulgaria, the one which goes from Plovdiv to Karlovo and finally the railway which runs from Kazanluk to Sliven and Burgas. The area where the depots are located is well hidden by woods and is protected on the southern side by the Sredna Gora Mountains, which are crossed by a road and by the railroad. This area is easy to defend and to guard.
9. In the vicinity of the station of Tulovo, is located the railway station of Dubovo (N 42-37, E 25-38), from which point branch off the Balkan railway lines which terminate in northern Bulgaria, in the city of Turnovo. North of the railway station of Dubovo are located well hidden, underground depots where the production of the military factory of Kazanluk (approximately 22 kilometers distant) is stored. In the factory of Kazanluk are produced various types of light weapons, gun-carriages, all types of military equipment, gas masks, and poison gases, and weapons of the Bulgarian Army are repaired. Furthermore, Soviet weapons which are to be used as part of the new armament of the Bulgarian Army are assembled and tested here.
10. The new road which crosses Khain Boaz (N 42-50, E 25-39) is the shortest route through the Balkan Mountains, joining Northern Bulgaria with Southern Bulgaria (from Nova Zagora, through Tvurditsa, to Turnovo). This road was constructed between 1945 and 1949. A military inspection carried out recently showed that this important strategic route is too narrow to allow two-way traffic for military convoys, in case of war. For this reason, now more than 2,000 Trudovaks, mobilized among persons released from concentration camps and among others hostile to the regime, are working toward widening this road.
11. Another group of Trudovaks in Sliven is working on reinforcing bridges along the road, constructing antitank gun emplacements, antitank barriers, and shelters in this mountainous area where the land is suited for such work, and through which the road mentioned in Paragraph 10 above passes. This road has an exclusively military importance, more specifically in support of the railway line between northern and southern Bulgaria, since it must be used for the movement of military units and of war materiel. This road is difficult to attack by air. Obviously this road will be placed under close guard; until now such protection has not been observed.
12. During the summer of 1953, three DOSO companies camped in the vicinity of the villages of Nikolovo (sic) and Kozarsko (sic), near Khain Boaz. These units received a personal visit from Doctor Ivan Pasov, president of the Soviet-Bulgarian Friendship Association, People's Representative, and high official of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 3 -

25X1

13. In 1952, the coal mines of Tvŭrditsa (N 42-42, E 25-54) and Chumerna (N 42-47, E 25-58), located along the road and railroad between Kazanlŭk and Sliven, produced pit-coal for the textile and the hide factory of Sliven and, partially, for the factories of Kazanlŭk, among these the military textile, and spinning factories. At present the entire pit-coal production of these two mines is sent to special depots located near the railroad stations of Tvŭrditsa, Dŭbovo, and Kazanlŭk, near the military factory located in the immediate vicinity of the power station, where the factory for the production of ammunition is also located. This move was taken in order to insure a sufficient stock of pit-coal for the military factory, in case the above mentioned mines should be placed out of commission in the event of war.
14. The Elena-Nova Zagora road is maintained in excellent condition to provide for an eventual rapid movement from southern to northern Bulgaria, or vice-versa, through Tvŭrditsa, Elena, and Nova Zagora. The General Staff, together with State Security took special precautions on this road against any partisan activity which, in this area, may find favorable terrain conditions and could interfere with all plans for the movement of military units.
15. Buildings are being constructed in the vicinity of the important military objectives and are used to house the administrators of the various depots and shelters, as well as troops and workers. The depots, in general, consist of underground galleries, excavated on the slopes of hills, as is the case for those in the city of Plovdiv, where even small elevations are put to use to store war reserves and antiaircraft artillery. Large quantities of arms and other military equipment in arrival are not unloaded in the barracks area of the various military units, but are sent directly to suitable depots and shelters in Shumen (now Kolarovgrad), in Pleven, and in the Slatina Redut, near Sofia.
16. Similar depots have been constructed in the vicinity of the village of Gorna Banya, near Bozhurishte airfield. Here the tanks of a heavy armored brigade, which amount to about 200 units, and about 36 heavy cannons can be sheltered. Two roads, which are rather well hidden, lead to this depot. Also here fuel tanks, including some large capacity ones, have been built. In the vicinity of Gorna Banya an underground shelter is being built for jet aircraft. It is hidden in the fields of Lyulin Planina. Also under construction are concrete taxiways which lead to the entrance of the shelter. This shelter can hold about 50 aircraft. The concrete taxiways are not yet finished, but they are scheduled for completion within 1953.
17. The village of Boyana (N 42-39, E 23-16) is an important military objective, where all the villas are occupied by Bulgarian or Soviet officers and by members of the State Security. Shelters for antiaircraft and other artillery are also being constructed in the village of Boyana.

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY